

The HOME BEAUTIFUL

Flowers and Shrubbery
Their Care and Cultivation



Specimen Polypodium Mandianum.

THE WINDOW GARDEN

By E. B. REXFORD.

It may not seem reasonable to the reader to treat of winter window gardens in midsummer, but a careful consideration of the subject from my point of view will convince the "lover" of the subject. I feel quite sure that this article is "timely."

Look over the window gardens of your neighbors, in winter, when they ought to be at their best to give the fullest degree of satisfaction, and I think you will find the majority of them far from satisfactory.

The plants will be small, much too small to be ornamental; and if you keep an eye on them throughout the season you will find that few of them reach the flowering stage before March, which is to say that most specimens in the ordinary home collection of plants give few or no flowers at the period when a window garden should afford us the greatest amount of pleasure.

What we aim at in flowers in winter—not in the spring, when the blossoms of the outdoor garden are at hand.

Said a woman to me, not long since: "I don't see why it is that I can't have flowers in the winter. Some of my friends have, and they don't take half as good care of their plants as I do. Why, some of them don't report their plants at all, still I notice they have flowers from them; and I go over all my plants just before winter sets in, and report them and cut them back or start new ones and take pains to give them the best soil and water as I can. About watering, and fertilizing, and ailing, but most of them will not blossom for me. They look healthy and they grow well, but one doesn't care for just leaves."

Now, this woman's failure to obtain flowers from her plants was explained by three words she made use of—just before winter. The attention she gave the plants at that period came several months too late.

The fact is, as anyone will readily see when they come to think the matter over, a plant cannot be satisfactorily developed in two or three months. Not much can be expected from a plant that is not made ready for winter until that season is about upon us.

In order to secure a good collection of good-sized plants for the winter, one must begin to get ready during the summer. By the term "good-sized," I do not mean large plants in the usual sense of the word, but rather plants of sufficient development to justify one in expecting flowers from them for the holidays.

Age is often a more important factor in plant culture than mere size. Young plants seldom bloom while development is taking place most rapidly. They must "get their roots" so to speak, before we can expect them to bend their energies to the production of flowers.

Therefore, I advise the owner of a collection of house plants from which she wishes to secure flowers all through the winter season to get the plants under way now. If some of them are large, cut them back and allow them to renew themselves wholly, as to branches, during the months between now and winter.

Report now, if necessary, and shift some as seem to need larger pots. If young plants are to be used, procure them at once and keep them going ahead steadily.

Do not be so anxious to secure rapid development that you fall into the error of overfertilizing. Simply aim to bring about a strong, healthy growth, and as long as a plant seems to be



Nephrolepis Tuberosa Plumosa.

Got the Same Letter.

Two men with the same name and both members of the same club found a letter in their box at the club. The wrong man opened it first. It was just a little dun from a tailor, who threatened to do everything but murder. He knew the missive didn't belong to him, so put it in the box. The next night the wrong man and the right man happened to come to the club at the same time. Both went to the letter box, the right man reaching it first. The wrong man

stepped back because he didn't want to embarrass the right one. But not he; he was there with the nerve. The right man read the epistle over very carefully twice. Then he tore it into bits, which he tossed carelessly into the nearest cuspidor, with a deprecating smile. "Poor little girl," said the right man. "How she loves me."

Weaving in China.

Weaving was practiced in China more than a thousand years before it was known in Europe.

ART IN WEARING VEIL

FRENCH WOMAN HAS BROUGHT IT TO PERFECTION.

Adjustment and Care of These Important Little Accessories of the Toilet Are Worthy of the Most Careful Study.

A close-fitting little hat on windy or rainy days is completely covered with a veil drawn up into the center of the crown like a filet with which we go marketing, writes a Parisian correspondent. A nautical person described these young women as "neat little craft," and they really look so workmanlike and tidy that they would certainly brave the weather by sea or land and never fear to look untidy, for there is no vulnerable spot in the hat and veil, in the coat, or in the tight skirt and high laced boots.

It is the veil in this picture which is interesting, for the fine weather must do away with the weather coat and the high boots; but the veil will merely change its movements. Apparently this feminine necessity of adornment is to play quite an important part in women's dress this summer. To know just what to do with a veil and when to do it means self-possession and a sense of beauty.

A Frenchwoman rarely turns up her veil unless it be one of the very heavy mourning ones; she takes it off, knowing that a veil turned up leaves an ugly line either across the brow or on the nose.

Neither does she twist it into a funny little knot under her chin, because she is conscious that it looks untidy and is bad for the veil. She adjusts it on her hat so that it can be quickly and easily taken off, and she pins it over her hair precisely so that she knows where to find the pins when the taking off moment arrives. It sounds such a little thing and is, in very fact, a trifle light as air, but it is one of the details that may just as well be mastered.

Some of the veils now are of the finest lace, very filmy and becoming; others are in almost invisible net, and a few women wear the strongly patterned veil. So much depends upon which kind of veil suits a woman best. Some women lose all distinction in a heavy veil; others seem to gain their distinction from it. A safe veil is the fine meshed one in black, for it keeps errant hairs within bounds and it merely softens without dulling the tints of the skin. It is also inexpensive.

There are exceptions as in the case of Chinese primulas, Primula obconica and others of a habit similar, in some respects to our annuals; but for the majority of plants adapted to house culture like geraniums, heliotropes, begonias, abutilons, asparagus in variety and carnations, older plants should always be chosen.

This summer I start the geraniums which I intend to depend upon for winter flowers a year from the coming winter. These will bloom some this winter if I let them, but I shall hold them in check to a great extent for future service.

The person who preaches "young plants for winter flowering" to you does not take into consideration the fact that a plant started this season from a cutting will have but few branches by winter, and a plant that has but few branches cannot give many flowers because simple flowering surface means many branches.

Therefore, instead of letting the geraniums you start this summer blossom in the winter, keep pinching them back to produce a sufficient number of branches to give the desired amount of flowering surface.

The more branches there are the more flowers you may expect. Cut your ferns apart now and use each division of the roots that has a piece of crown attached as the basis of a new plant. Use leaf mold or turf for loam for this class of plants, if obtainable.

Hanging baskets should receive attention at once.

Never allow roses to remain on the bush until the petals begin to fall.

All plants that are intended for winter bloomers should have the buds pinched off now.

Pick the pansies and nasturtiums every day if you want to have plenty of bloom.

MULCH YOUR PLANTS

If the season is warm, and the soil seems likely to dry out rapidly, water your plants well, and mulch about them with road dust. This will prevent the rapid evaporation of moisture from about the roots of the plants. Larger plants can be mulched with grass clippings from the lawn.

RIBBONS IN THE CORSETS

Newest Garments Are Remarkable for the Amount of That Form of Garniture.

Not for many years has ribbon been employed for forming corsets, and when last it was popular it formed the giraffe that young girls and women with slight figures adopted. It is now used to form whole corsets.

Some of the new corsets not only lace in the back, but the front as well, while others, facing in the front, lace in the back from the waist line down to the end of the corset. There is a tendency to omit the back-laced corsets, for more than ever are women convinced that the front lacing is more comfortable and gives better lines than the garment that laces in the back. It would seem that the corset that laces in the front with the half back lacing would meet every requirement of the most difficult figure.

To fit the very full figure with the new short-hipped corset would be disastrous, for the hips are so confined no matter if the waist is to

be fitted snugly, so the woman of ample proportions should continue to wear the long-hipped garment.

Pongee Leads.

Pongee silk has taken a leading position for women's costumes, says Mothers' Magazine. This is a matter for congratulation, because this silk is useful, durable and intrinsically good. It is never what we call "smart," but it is rich and serviceable. It comes in all colors, but the present predominance of the sand tints makes the natural color of this pretty silk far more in demand than even the loveliest of other shades. It is rarely used without some sort of trimming in sharp contrast, and cerise, bright green, dark brown and real red are the leading favorites for this purpose.

Some Good Advice.

Oven shelves should be regularly removed from the oven or gas stove and scraped with an old blunt knife. Rub them with paper, and wash thoroughly with fairly hot, strong soda water before they are put back into the oven or stove to dry.

Popularity of Braid.

Since the debut of braid trimmings to emphasize the military lines of suits, dresses and blouses, the popularity of the various braids has been increasing every minute. One cannot go wrong if a few rows of narrow braid or one row of very wide braid is used to elaborate a costume. The liberty to use braid trimmings gives a woman an opportunity to add a bright touch to an otherwise somber outfit.

Right Number of Nests.

One open nest for each four hens is about the right number. Nests are best made of straw or hay, and are best of wire and constructed in pairs so they may be easily removed and cleaned.

Keep Poultry Quarters Clean.

Keep the poultry quarters clean, by all means, at this season, and give the interiors occasional coatings of white wash to which a little crude carbolic acid, creosol or any of the stock dips in added.

FROM STYLES OF 1862



These Costumes Are Designed From Frocks Worn by Little French Girls in 1862. On the Left is a Child's Frock of Green Taffeta Trimmed With Bands of Black Velvet. Next to it is a Young Girl's Costume Made Up of a Brown Serge Jacket With a Brown and White Checked Skirt. The Next Frock Shows a Blue Velvet Jacket With a Blue and White Striped Skirt.

blouses, no lace-trimmed underwear, no silk petticoats, no imitation pearls, no slippers or silk stockings, and no white gloves. For her the accessories of dress do not exist. All the pennies which they cost her American cousin she saves toward her daughter's dot.

THINGS WOMEN ARE WEARING

To Be With the Elect, One Must Keep These Facts Constantly in the Mind.

Sleeveless silk sweater coats are a welcome novelty, for they solve the problem of giving a little warmth without giving too much.

Avantgarde striped silks are used for shirtwaists for morning and sports wear.

A large and long black bow attached to the back of a high plaiting is one of the latest fads.

Delicate, airy hats of haircloth come in pink, white, blue, tan and gold. The shapes are flat and picturesque.

Petticoats are made of pretty flowered material or of plain white, with ruffles of flowered material.

Costly embroideries seem to be entirely out of the question on the summer gowns.

Thin frills of lace and net alternately distinguish some of the summer models.

Most of the pongee coats have detachable collars and cuffs of contrasting silk.

With the passing of spats for the summer all sorts of fancies come to take their place—shoes with white tops, shoes with white-striped tops and shoes with gray tops.

With frocks of checked silk separate coats of dark silk are extremely chic. Some full sleeveless bodices have ruffles set in the armhole in lieu of sleeves.

Revers of tucked and ruffled net are seen inside the revers of long silk coats.

Silk handbags are much in vogue and black-and-white effects are among the smartest.

Piped Edges for Skirts.

Scalloped and piped edges on skirts and blouses have much to do with the charm of the present fashions. This revival is a pleasant one, as it adds a piquant note of contrast to a costume.

WAY FOR THE PANCAKE HAT

That Style Is the Latest Note in Millinery That Is Thought Worth Consideration.

"Have you seen the pancake hat?" asks a fashion expert.

The very latest recruit in the millinery forces is the pancake hat.

"These hats are flat little affairs of straw, tulle or silk, and since the crowns are so shallow to fit the head they are held to the side of the head by means of a band of ribbon, velvet or tulle."

"Of course, the ends are tied beneath the ear or chin, and the pancake is worn at a decidedly rakish angle—else millinery is not up-to-the-minute in fashion."

"Everyone whom I have seen wearing a 'pancake' seem to beaming with good humor," adds this writer, "and I'm inclined to believe that this little oddity of the season bears with it the power to keep one brimful of merriment—no one could be ill-natured or grumpy with a pancake perched on the side of one's head."

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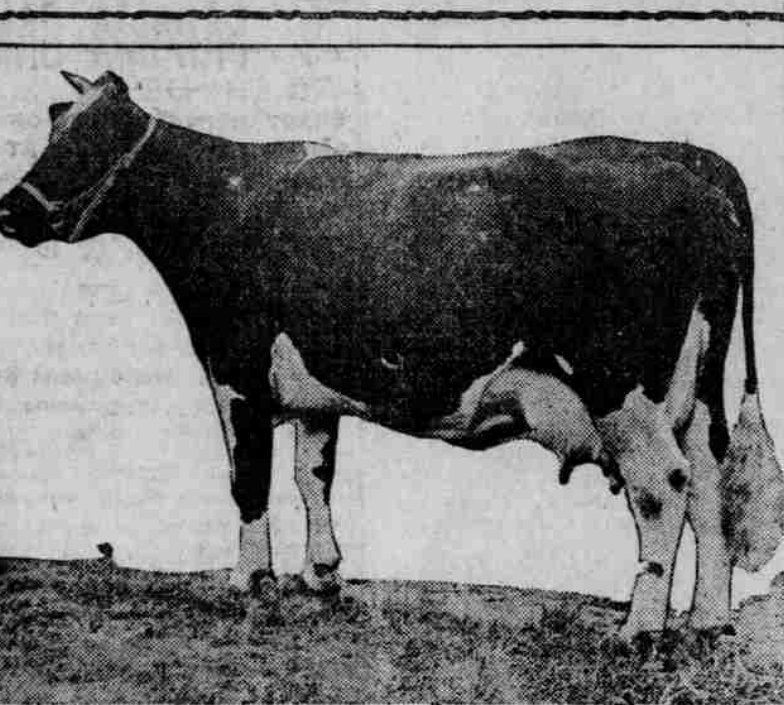
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NUMEROUS DIFFICULTIES FOR DAIRYMAN



Champion Holstein Cow.

The breeding of dairy cattle is a matter surrounded with numerous difficulties, rendered all the more uncertain and tantalizing from the artificial conditions in which the cattle are reared.

Some of our highest producing dairy cows have been developed along milk-producing lines until they are in reality an unnatural deformity.

Every well-bred cow that is kept on the farm by the very law of its being is ready and able to assist in giving additional value to all crops grown on the farm if we only surround her with the right conditions.

Buying cows and selling them as fast as they stop giving milk will never build up a herd of high-producing dairy cows.

The calf from the moment of its birth should be kept in a thrifty growing condition. Letting an animal run down is a great and permanent loss. It is something lost forever, that no amount of after care or feeding can regain.

When the calves are playful it is an indication of thrift and health. It is essential that we attend to the comfort and bodily ease of our cows.

PREPARE LAND FOR STAND OF ALFALFA

Best Method of Inoculating Is to Use Soil From Old Field—Keep Weeds Out.

Alfalfa is a hard crop to start. It is delicate and tender, and to put alfalfa on ordinary land without any protection or help is about like throwing away four dollars an acre.

But on 20 to 30 loads of manure per acre, you are preparing the land for ten years.

But the land must first be worked over and over until it is free from weeds. It may take a disking or harrowing every ten days all summer to do this.

If the soil is acid, as shown by the simple litmus-paper test, put on the ground limestone. Inoculate the ground and sow the alfalfa the last of July or the first of August.

The best method of inoculating the soil is to use soil from an old alfalfa field or from a patch of sweet clover, a wagon load or more per acre, but this soil must not lie on top of the ground in the hot sun many hours or the bacteria will be killed.

There is little danger from sweet clover, which is a two-year plant, and will not survive in the field when the alfalfa is moved as often as it needs moving.

A thousand bags should not cost more than 75 cents. The usual way is to fasten them with a common pin.

Do not pin them around the stem of the bunch, but over the cane from which clusters descend. The edges of the bag should be folded down and them pinned securely so as to exclude the rain as well as the insects.

If this be done carefully, only an insignificant number of bags will be lost during the rest of the season. Women, with their trained fingers, are the best for this work, when they can be obtained. A skillful hand will pin on a thousand bags a day.

Another great advantage in bagging is that it is one of the best ways to preserve the grape in its ripe condition. Many varieties will remain fresh and sound until frost, and even then be cut off, laid away in a cool place and kept still longer. They have been kept until Christmas.

The red varieties seem to be the thickest skinned and most liable to crack and to puncture. The white kinds are of all the least molested by birds, which seem to think they are not ripe. The blacks are the first to be attacked.

Spray Mixture for Potatoes.

Lime-sulphur is not a good spray mixture for potatoes. This is the decision of the New York experiment station after a series of tests. Where lime-sulphur was compared with bordeaux mixture as a remedy for potato blight it was found the lime-sulphur decreased the yield about 23 bushels per acre, while the bordeaux increased the yield 20 bushels per acre.

Most Obnoxious Weed.

Wild barley, or so-called fox-tail, is a most obnoxious weed that should be shown no mercy. It is even creeping on to raw prairie and into old stands of alfalfa and tame grasses. The neglected roadsides and fence corners are very prolific sources of infestation. Clean them out.

Strakes Last Long.

Strakes driven into firm ground 12 to 14 inches will last longer than if put down two feet, and hold barbed wire just as well.

For the Dancing Class.

A frock which would be useful for dancing classes or for home evening wear is carried out in soft white washable silk, with a skirt of novel design, full gathered with a double row of gauging at the back and sides, and finished in front with a plain flat plait.

A broad sash of rose colored satin enriches the waist, while the bodice is very becomingly gauged round the shoulders and arranged with a soft chemise of white linen, gathered high to the throat. In fine French

cashmere or in crepe de chine with a chemise in net and lace, this would make a very pretty afternoon frock for smart occasions.

Ancient Governments Similar.

The Aztecs and the Incas had governments much like those of Europe and the nations of the same era. Anthropologists do not consider this an evidence that there existed a prehistoric link between the old and the new worlds. Men under similar environments develop similar institutions.

Children Cry for Fletcher's

CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher* and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

What is CASTORIA

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. For more than thirty years it has been in constant use for the relief of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic, all Teething Troubles and Diarrhea. It regulates the Stomach and Bowels, assimilates the Food, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS

Bears the Signature of

Dr. J. C. Fletcher

In Use For Over 30 Years

The Kind You Have Always Bought

THE CENTRAL COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

The Army of

Is Growing Smaller Every Day.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS

are responsible—they not only give relief—they permanently cure Constipation. Millions use them for Biliousness, Indigestion, Sick Headache, Sallow Skin.

SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE.

Genuine must bear Signature

Dr. J. C. Fletcher

Denmark has about 85 head of cattle to every 100 inhabitants.

Some men's ideas of progress is to stand and watch others go backward.

For genuine comfort and lasting pleasure use Red Cross Ball Blue on wash day. All good grocers. Adv.

Officer, He's Out Again!

Snickelritz—I know a man who never washes his hands before breakfast.

Dinglebatz—Why doesn't he? Snickelritz—Guess he hasn't time. He employs nearly 200 hands in his factory.

WON GOLD MEDAL AT PANAMA EXPO.

At the Panama Expo, the Judges awarded a Gold Medal of Honor to the Sonora phonograph for a perfect score or 100% on tone qualities. This is a great victory, and a proof that the Sonora is the highest class talking machine in the world.

The Sonora Piano Co., at Fort Wayne, Ind., sells the Sonora and will give a book of favorite songs with words and music free to every one bringing this announcement or 5c by mail.

Sonora Catalogue free. We have a \$450 Packard Piano good as new, \$200.—Adv.

Lesson From a Beggar.

"It was a street beggar who made me feel my insignificance," said former United States Senator Chauncey M. Depew, "and he did it in a gracious way. I was a trifle out of sorts when I said to him, 'You can't hold me up.' 'Not even as a good example,' he replied, lifting his hat."—Youth's Companion.

DISTRESSING PIMPLES

Removed by Cuticura Soap and Ointment. Trial Free.

Smear them with the Ointment. Wash off in five minutes with Cuticura Soap and hot water and continue bathing for some minutes. Repeat on rising and retiring. These fragrant supercreamy emollients do much for the skin, and do it quickly.

Sample each free by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. XY, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

Submerged But Deadly.

Knicker—Isn't Jones a summer pest? Bocker—He is the submarine under the hot wave.

A man never does what his wife expects him to.

War and Necessity.

Assuming an air of sage importance the fat plumber ejaculated: "War is a necessity."

"Pooh! How do you make that out?" demanded the thin carpenter, deprecatingly.

"Did you read that Edison is going to devote his energies to American protective measures in time of war?"

"Yes. What of it?"

"That proves my contention." "How?"

"War makes invention necessary, doesn't it?"

"I suppose so."

"And necessity is the mother of invention?"

"Huh!"

"Therefore war and necessity are synonymous."

The thin carpenter is still thinking it over.—Youngstown Telegram.

Happy is the home where Red Cross Ball Blue is used. Sure to please. All grocers. Adv.

The more money a man has the more he can refuse to lend.

Even a sensible man likes a taste of dattery occasionally.

Last Corn Land

Southeast Missouri Reclaimed Lands

the only remaining undeveloped corn land in the United States.

Land that will double, triple and quadruple in price just as sure as day follows night. Good corn land will in the future as it has in the past and does at the present command the highest price. 50,000 acres of good, rich, alluvial, cut-over, bottom land, both drained and undrained, level as the Illinois prairie, rich as the Valley of the Nile; no rocks